



# Testing and Reporting Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting

## Version 2.0

Effective Date: March 31, 2021

Horticultural lighting products using LEDs must comply with the provisions of this document to be eligible for listing on the DLC Solid-State Horticultural Lighting Qualified Products List (“Horticultural QPL”, “Hort QPL”). Products eligible for DLC qualification must be complete LED light fixtures. That is, they must be electromagnetic radiation-generating devices analogous to luminaires (or fixtures) as defined by ANSI/IES RP-16 sections 6.8.5 and 10.3.1.

## Definitions

Unless otherwise noted, DLC policy nomenclature directly references the definitions from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) *ANSI/ASABE S640: Quantities and Units of Electromagnetic Radiation for Plants (Photosynthetic Organisms)*, and, where applicable, the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) *ANSI/IES RP-16: Nomenclature and Definitions for Illuminating Engineering*, with key deviations or interpretations noted. Each mention of the term “LED device” in this document is meant to reference LED packages, modules, or arrays.

## Eligibility

Products designed and intended to operate with standard North American nominal AC line voltages (typically 120V – 480V) are eligible for DLC qualification. The following are further eligibility rules for horticultural lighting equipment:

- Products that are lamps (analogous to RP-16 sections 6.8.5.3 and 6.8.5.4), light engines (analogous to RP-16 section 6.8.5.5), or identified as retrofit kits intended to replace the light sources or other structures within an existing fixture are not eligible for qualification at this time.
- Fixtures that incorporate light sources other than LED, whether as sole-source or as LED-hybrid fixtures, are not eligible for qualification at this time.



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- Fixtures that employ *externally* supplied active cooling systems, including circulating liquid and ducted forced air, are not eligible for qualification at this time.
    - Fixtures that incorporate *internal* active cooling systems that can be measured via standardized fixture test procedures, such as on-board fans, are eligible.
  - Manufacturers must list full and complete model numbers that clearly demonstrate all qualified product options offered.
    - “Full and complete model numbers” means model numbers that include all performance-affecting and non-performance-affecting variations offered, and which do not omit any option that is available to customers in the market. In general, options that do not affect the performance of the product can be submitted as a single model number, and the multiple options can be denoted by bracketing them in the model number.

For example, a product that has multiple exterior paint color options or mounting options that do not affect performance may include all color and mounting options in brackets (e.g. "[WH, BLK, SLV, GRY]") within a single model number. Low and high voltage options may be submitted as a single model number (e.g. "ABC 300 [120V-277V, 347V-480V] WH") with the worst-case performance reported. Multiple driver variations may be included in single product applications, as noted above, and listed in a single model number as long as they perform nominally the same. If the drivers perform nominally differently – that is, they are not presented to customers as having the same performance other than voltage input and result in different ordering codes – then the unique drivers must be listed in separate model numbers. Options that affect the flux output, presence or lack of dimming capabilities, or spectral tuning options cannot be bracketed and submitted as a single model number.
    - DLC reviewers may check web listings and other marketing materials and reserve the right to request additional information to demonstrate the full and complete model number. A lack of clarity in model numbers will result in delayed application processing; misrepresentation of model numbers in the application process discovered outside the application process will generally be considered a violation of the DLC program and trademark rules.
    - Each model number can only represent the fixture under a single brand. If the fixture can be sold under multiple brands, model numbers must be listed separately for each brand.

## 60 Testing Methods and Requirements

61 The DLC Technical Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting are as follows. Details explaining  
62 each item follow **Table 1**.

63 Table 1: DLC Horticultural Lighting Technical Requirements

Parameter/Attribute/Metric	Requirement	Requirement Type	Method of Measurement/Evaluation
<b>Photosynthetic Photon Flux</b> ( $\Phi_p$ or PPF) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$ )	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 400-700nm range, with 400-500nm, 500-600nm, and 600-700nm bins reported alongside the total
<b>Far-Red Photon Flux</b> ( $\Phi_{p,fr}$ or PPF <sub>FR</sub> ) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$ )	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 700-800nm range
<b>Photon Flux</b> (PF <sub>PBAR</sub> ) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$ )	n/a	Reported (Optional)	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 280-800nm range
<b>Spectral Quantum Distribution</b> (SQD) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{nm}^{-1}$ )	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) <a href="#">(ANSI/IES TM-33-18)</a> 400-800nm range
<b>Photosynthetic Photon Intensity Distribution</b> ( $I_p$ or PPID) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{sr}^{-1}$ )	n/a	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-79) (ANSI/IES TM-33-18) 400-700nm range
<b>Photosynthetic Photon Efficacy</b> ( $K_p$ or PPE) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$ )	$\geq 1.90 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$	Required/Threshold	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 400-700nm range
<b>Photon Efficacy</b> (PE <sub>PBAR</sub> ) ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$ )	n/a	Reported (Optional)	(ANSI/IES LM-79) 280-800nm range
<b>Photon Flux Maintenance, Photosynthetic</b> (PFM <sub>p</sub> )	Q <sub>90</sub> $\geq 36,000$ hours	Required/Threshold	(ANSI/IES LM-80 / IES TM-21 or IES LM-84 / IES TM-28) 400-700nm range, fixture technical specification sheet, and <i>In-Situ Temperature Measurement Test</i> (ISTMT)

Parameter/Attribute/Metric	Requirement	Requirement Type	Method of Measurement/Evaluation
<b>Photon Flux Maintenance, Far-Red (PFM<sub>FR</sub>)</b>	Report time to Q <sub>90</sub>	Reported	(ANSI/IES LM-80 / IES TM-21 or IES LM-84 / IES TM-28) 700-800nm range
<b>Driver Lifetime</b>	≥50,000 hours	Required/Threshold	Driver technical specification sheet, fixture technical specification sheet, and <i>In-Situ Temperature Measurement Test</i> (ISTMT)
<b>Fan Lifetime</b>	≥50,000 hours	Required/Threshold	Fan technical specification sheet, fixture technical specification sheet
<b>Warranty</b>	5 years	Required/Threshold	Legal warranty terms & conditions
<b>Power Factor (PF)</b>	≥0.9	Required/Threshold	Benchtop electrical testing or ANSI/IES LM-79
<b>Total Harmonic Distortion, Current (THDi)</b>	≤20%	Required/Threshold	Benchtop electrical testing or ANSI/IES LM-79
<b>Safety Certification</b>	Horticultural Lighting designation by OSHA NRTL or SCC-recognized body	Required/Threshold	ANSI/UL 8800 (ANSI/CAN/UL 8800)

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65 **Output Characteristics:**

66 The DLC requires testing and reporting of the following characteristics for the output of horticultural  
67 lighting devices.

- 68 • **Photosynthetic Photon Flux (Φ<sub>p</sub> or PPF), (μmol × s<sup>-1</sup>)**  
69 This is the total output of the product over the specific range of wavelengths defined by  
70 ANSI/ASABE S640 for PPF (400-700nm). This metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture  
71 and contains no spectral or directional information.  
72 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on both the total and ~100nm-wide “bins” of flux within this  
73 range to allow end users to understand the fixture’s relative proportions. Test information must  
74 provide output in these ranges specifically, in addition to the total 400-700nm output.



- 75 • **Far-Red Photon Flux ( $\Phi_{p,fr}$  or  $PF_{FR}$ ), ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$ )**  
76 This is the output of the product over the “far-red” band defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 (700-  
77 800nm). This metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture and contains no spectral or  
78 directional information. This metric is reported only and does not have a qualifying threshold.  
79 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on the total flux of this 100nm-wide band separately for end  
80 users’ informational needs.
- 81 • **Photon Flux ( $PF_{PBAR}$ ), ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1}$ )**  
82 This is the output of the product over a plant’s “photobiologically active radiation” (PBAR)  
83 wavelength range (280-800nm). This metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture and  
84 contains no spectral or directional information. This metric is optionally reported only and does  
85 not have a qualifying threshold.  
86 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on the total flux of this PBAR band specifically for end users’  
87 informational needs.  $PF_{PBAR}$  is intended to convey UV, PAR, and FR radiation, which are often  
88 associated with photomorphological effects in plants.  $PF_{PBAR}$  is not an ASABE S640 defined term  
89 and is not required for DLC qualification, though it can be reported and listed if desired by  
90 applicants.
- 91 • **Photon Efficacy ( $PE_{PBAR}$ ), ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$ )**  
92 This is the output of the product over a plant’s “photobiologically active radiation” (PBAR) band  
93 (280-800nm) divided by the total electrical input watts to the fixture, including any other  
94 ancillary loads (controllers, sensors, cooling fans, etc.) used within the lighting system. This  
95 metric is an integrated value for the entire fixture and contains no spectral or directional  
96 information. This metric is optionally reported only and does not have a qualifying threshold.  
97 The DLC Horticultural QPL reports on the total flux of this PBAR band specifically for end users’  
98 informational needs.  $PE_{PBAR}$  is intended to convey luminaire efficacy in converting electrical  
99 energy into UV, PAR, and FR radiation, which are often associated with photomorphological  
100 effects in plants.  $PE_{PBAR}$  is not an ASABE S640 defined term and is not required for DLC  
101 qualification, though it can be listed if desired by applicants.
- 102 • **Spectral Quantum Distribution (SQD), ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{nm}^{-1}$ )**  
103 This is the distribution of photon flux per photon wavelength over the photosynthetic and far-  
104 red range of wavelengths defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 (400-800nm). The DLC will also accept  
105 the distribution of photon flux per photon wavelengths over the PBAR range (280-800nm).  
106 When reporting either of the optional PBAR metrics (i.e.  $PF_{PBAR}$  and  $PE_{PBAR}$ ), distribution of  
107 photon flux over the PBAR range is required. This distribution is measured and reported as  
108 integrated in all directions from the fixture and contains no granular directional information  
109 itself. This distribution must be measured and reported from an appropriately accredited  
110 facility.  
111 An image of this distribution must be submitted within the application in a .jpg graphical file  
112 format, at a size of 300x300 pixels or larger. This image will be accessible to users on the QPL.  
113 The DLC intends to utilize the required .xml file per ANSI/IES TM-33-18 to generate these images  
114 in the future.

115 Please refer to the [TM-33-18 Reporting and Photometric/Spectral Reporting Alternatives](#) section  
116 for additional information.

- 117 • **Photosynthetic Photon Intensity Distribution ( $I_p$  or PPID), ( $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{sr}^{-1}$ )**  
118 This is the distribution of photosynthetic photon intensity per unit solid angle leaving the fixture.  
119 This distribution is measured and reported as integrated for all wavelengths across the 400-  
120 700nm range leaving the fixture and contains no spectral distribution information itself. This  
121 distribution must be measured and reported from an appropriately accredited facility.

122 An image of this distribution is to be submitted within the application in a .jpg graphical file  
123 format, at a size of 300x300 pixels or larger. This image will be accessible to users on the QPL.  
124 The DLC intends to utilize the required .xml file per ANSI/IES TM-33-18 to generate these images  
125 in the future.

126 Please refer to the [TM-33-18 Reporting and Photometric/Spectral Reporting Alternatives](#) section  
127 for additional information.

128 *Note: The DLC will no longer accept distribution data that are developed through in-house*  
129 *assessments. Products that were qualified prior to the V2.0 effective date must provide TM-33-*  
130 *18 documents by December 31, 2021 to requalify to the V2.0 Technical Requirements, or the*  
131 *products will be delisted.*

## 132 **Efficacy:**

133 The DLC requires testing and reporting of Photosynthetic Photon Efficacy (PPE), which is the output of  
134 the fixture over the specific range of wavelengths defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 for PPF (400-700nm),  
135 divided by the total electrical input watts to the fixture, including any other ancillary loads (controllers,  
136 sensors, cooling fans, etc.) used within the lighting system.

137 All products are required to have a PPE of  $\geq 1.90 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$ . In both submitted applications and under  
138 surveillance testing, the DLC allows an absolute tolerance of -5% to this threshold value. The result of  
139 this is the DLC's acceptance of any test report showing an efficacy of  $1.81 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$  or higher, and the  
140 disqualification of any product, either during submission or surveillance testing, with a test report  
141 showing an efficacy less than  $1.81 \mu\text{mol} \times \text{J}^{-1}$ , at any point in the product's specified operating voltage  
142 range. All evaluations and listings of this measurement will be rounded to the nearest hundredth.

143 If a product contains multiple drivers:

- 144 • All driver specification sheets must be provided.
- 145 • For each unique driver used, manufacturers must provide electrical testing to document which  
146 driver variation results in the overall minimum  $K_p$  (PPE) or worst-case driver efficiency, as well as  
147 which variation results in the overall worst-case power quality (THDi and PF).
  - 148 ○ This testing must include the input current and wattage; the output voltage, current,  
149 and wattage; and the THDi and PF for each driver, at each nominal input voltage.
  - 150 ○ In-house (i.e. non-accredited lab) benchtop electrical testing is sufficient for  
151 demonstrating the driver variation that yields the overall minimum  $K_p$  (PPE) and

- 152 minimum power quality at the applicable loading conditions and at the applicable input  
153 voltages.
- 154 ○ From this electrical characterization testing, the product and conditions representing  
155 worst-case efficacy must undergo formal whole-fixture LM-79 testing by an accredited  
156 testing lab.
  - 157 ○ For questions about testing requirements for family grouping applications, please refer  
158 to the [Family Grouping Application Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting](#)  
159 [policy](#).
  - 160 ● Drivers that result in explicitly different nominal fixture performance (for example, if a driver  
161 change results in different flux output by the product, determined at the DLC’s discretion) are  
162 not permissible variations within a single model number and are required to submit a family  
163 grouping application for QPL listing. If alternate driver variations result in different input  
164 wattage, worst-case will be published on the QPL.
    - 165 ○ Please refer to the [Family Grouping Application Requirements for LED-based](#)  
166 [Horticultural Lighting policy](#) for specific testing and reporting requirements for product  
167 families.

## 168 Long-Term Performance:

169 The DLC requires the following performance data to characterize the long-term performance of the  
170 fixture:

- 171 ● **Flux Maintenance,  $\Phi_p$  (PPF) and  $\Phi_{p,fr}$  (PF<sub>FR</sub>)**

172 This is a characterization of the ability of the device to maintain its output within the given  
173 parameters over time. Given that device output of interest is measured in quanta of photons,  
174 and not in lumens, the DLC will use the general engineering term for quanta, “Q”, instead of the  
175 more-familiar “L” prefix used within general illumination applications.

  - 176 ○ The DLC requires either LED device-level or whole-fixture testing and projections in  
177 accordance with the (LM-80 and TM-21) or (LM-84 and TM-28) industry standards  
178 sufficient for a Q<sub>90</sub> of ≥36,000 hours within the  $\Phi_p$  (PPF) range (400-700nm).
    - 179 ■ The “Q” in the Q<sub>90</sub> value is based strictly on the value shown in cell I42 of the  
180 ENERGY STAR [TM-21 calculator](#) or cell I45 of the ENERGY STAR [TM-28 calculator](#).
  - 181 ○ All TM-21 or TM-28 projections must be made at the maximum ambient temperature on  
182 the fixture’s specification sheet. See [In-Situ Temperature Measurement Testing \(ISTMT\)](#)  
183 information below for additional details.
  - 184 ○ The DLC requires testing and projections to report Q<sub>90</sub> for the  $\Phi_{p,fr}$  (PF<sub>FR</sub>) range of 700-  
185 800nm, but does not make determinations or qualifications based on this data. Please  
186 see a description of PFM<sub>FR</sub>-specific testing requirements in the [“For fixtures using](#)  
187 [multiple types of LEDs”](#) section below.
  - 188 ○ To support PFM<sub>p</sub> and PFM<sub>FR</sub> projections, LM-80/LM-84 information must be provided for  
189 both the 400-700nm and the 700-800nm range.

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- All new product submissions using the LM-80/TM-21 approach are required to provide LM-80 data in appropriate (PPF,  $PF_{FR}$ ) units, measured as such at all time points in the LM-80 procedure. The DLC reserves the right to request additional information for all reports referring to “photon flux” that are ambiguous (based on product SQD) about the division of said flux between the PPF and  $PF_{FR}$  categories to determine approval.
    - Products qualified with non-PPF units that were converted into PPF units during the provisional period (i.e. prior to V1.2) will be required to provide LM-80 data in appropriate units to requalify under the V2.0 Technical Requirements.
    - Provisionally qualified products will be allowed to update their listings to remove any caveats by submitting actual data by December 2021. The DLC will process these update applications through the month of December, 2021.
  - Products may not be qualified and listed on the QPL without long-term performance data for flux degradation. Products that use LEDs for which no LM-80 data is available are required to undergo LM-84 testing for TM-28 projections.
  - *In-Situ Temperature Measurement Testing (ISTMT):*
    - ISTMTs must be conducted and provided for the hottest LED in the fixture, and LED-device level drive current must be reported.
    - ISTMTs must be conducted and reported in the same manner as thermal testing for safety certification. Specifically, applicants must report the operating temperature of the LED at the fixture’s highest rated ambient temperature within the ISTMT report. This must be done in accordance with acceptable procedures from safety certification standards for measuring and projecting operating temperatures. For example, if a fixture is rated for operation at 40°C ambient, ISTMTs are not accepted if they only show the temperature of the LED when measured during a 25°C ambient condition. In this example, appropriate steps must be taken to characterize the LED operating temperature when the fixture is in a 40°C ambient environment, as defined by the thermal portions of the relevant safety standards.
  - For fixtures using multiple types of LEDs:
    - LM-80 reports (if being used instead of whole-fixture LM-84 data) must be provided for each type of LED device present in the fixture.
      - For DLC evaluations, LED “type” is differentiated by the nominal output of the LED device or the manufacturer of that LED device. For example, a fixture incorporating four different LEDs, with nominal emissions of 440nm, 660nm, 730nm, and a 5000K “white”, is required to provide four LM-80s and associated information for TM-21 projections, corresponding to each of these nominal designations. Some limited



231 cross-applicability of LM-80 data is allowed within phosphor-converted  
232 white LEDs of the same series; see [LM-80 applicability](#) information  
233 below.

- 234       ▪ ISTMT testing must be provided on the hottest of each LED type (for example,  
235 the hottest blue, white, and red LED in the fixture, respectively).
- 236       ▪ Maximum LED drive current must be reported for each LED type.
- 237       ▪ For PFM<sub>P</sub> (400-700nm), each LED type present in the fixture that has at least  
238 25% of its per-device flux in the PPF range must independently meet the Q<sub>90</sub> ≥  
239 36,000 hours requirement, as shown by a TM-21 calculation. The DLC does not  
240 require device-level SQD data from applicants and will typically accept the  
241 applicant’s descriptions of a device’s relative PPF while reserving the right to  
242 request explanation.
- 243       ▪ The DLC requires calculated PFM<sub>FR</sub> for all fixtures with a PF<sub>FR</sub> output that is equal  
244 to or greater than 5% of the fixture’s flux from 400-800nm. For PFM<sub>FR</sub> (700-  
245 800nm), each LED type present in the fixture that has at least 25% of its per-  
246 device flux in the PF<sub>FR</sub> range must report its Q<sub>90</sub> duration in hours. The DLC does  
247 not require device-level SQD data from applicants and will typically accept the  
248 applicant’s descriptions of a device’s relative PF<sub>FR</sub>, while reserving the right to  
249 require explanation. There is no threshold performance requirement across this  
250 far-red range; it is a reported value only.

251       ○ LM-80 applicability:

- 252       ▪ For phosphor-converted “white” LEDs within the ANSI nominal chromaticity  
253 range, the DLC follows the [ENERGY STAR Requirements for the Use of LM-80](#)  
254 [Data](#) published September 2017. Consistent with the ENERGY STAR  
255 requirements, for narrow-band emitters, the DLC generally requires an LM-80  
256 for each distinct nominal product offered by an LED device manufacturer.  
257 Devices of the same type but with different optical codes for beam spread are  
258 allowed to cross-apply LM-80 testing. This also applies to products that are in  
259 the same series with differences in nomenclature due to marketing changes  
260 (see series provisions of ENERGY STAR requirements document). The DLC  
261 reserves the right to require additional information to approve all claims of LM-  
262 80 applicability.

263       ● **Warranty**

264 Products must have a manufacturer-provided product warranty of at least five years. The  
265 warranty terms and conditions must be provided as part of the submittal for qualification. The  
266 warranty must cover the complete luminaire and must clearly explain the terms and conditions  
267 associated with the warranty. Note that “luminaire” includes light source, housing, heat sink,  
268 power supplies, and other electrical components, optics, and any other components such as  
269 cooling fans or controls (if present).

270 Warranty terms and conditions can vary widely from manufacturer to manufacturer. The DLC  
271 explicitly defines a warranty period of five years and does not have specific requirements for

272 warranty claim terms (e.g. labor, recommissioning, etc.) other than those listed above. The DLC  
273 does not verify or validate a manufacturer’s terms, conditions, or process for customer warranty  
274 claims. The DLC does not monitor field failure rates of qualified products or warranty policy  
275 redemption or history among manufacturers. Industry stakeholders are urged to review  
276 warranty terms and conditions as part of the purchasing decision process.

- **Driver ISTMT**

277 Applicants must supply a technical specification sheet for the driver(s) they use in their product,  
278 showing the lifetime of the driver based on operating temperature and the temperature  
279 measurement point (TMP) for monitoring the operating temperature of the driver. In-situ  
280 temperature measurement testing must be conducted, and a report must be provided with the  
281 application showing an operating temperature consistent with the driver specification sheet  
282 information and demonstrating that the driver will have a lifetime of at least 50,000 hours when  
283 operating at or above the highest rated ambient temperature on the fixture’s specification  
284 sheet.  
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286 As noted in the [ISTMT](#) description within the flux maintenance section, driver ISTMTs must be  
287 conducted and reported in the same manner as thermal testing for safety certification.  
288 Specifically, applicants must report the operating temperature of the driver at the fixture’s  
289 highest rated ambient temperature within the ISTMT report. This must be done in accordance  
290 with acceptable procedures from safety certification standards for measuring and projecting  
291 operating temperatures. For example, if a fixture is rated for operation at 40°C ambient, ISTMTs  
292 are not accepted if they only show the temperature of the driver when measured during a 25°C  
293 ambient condition. In this example, appropriate steps must be taken to report the driver  
294 operating temperature when the fixture is operating in a 40°C ambient environment, as defined  
295 by the thermal portions of the relevant safety standards.

- For products that may use multiple drivers, specification sheets for each driver must be provided with the details above. Testing must be conducted on each driver at its appropriate worst-case input voltage. If a product uses multiple drivers from the same manufacturer product line or series, then the single worst-case thermal ambient environment of the product line or series requires a driver ISTMT. The DLC will operate with the expectation that the operating condition at the highest wattage in the driver manufacturer’s product line or series is the worst-case thermal ambient environment, but the DLC may ask the manufacturer to provide detailed evidence to document the worst-case driver thermals.

- **Fans**

306 Products that employ on-board cooling fans must provide a technical specification sheet for  
307 each fan type employed in the product, family group, or spectral sub-group, as applicable. The  
308 fan specification sheet must state the lifetime of the fan and a reference operating temperature  
309 rating for that lifetime claim. The lifetime must be at least 50,000 hours, at an operating  
310 temperature at or above the fixture’s highest rated ambient temperature.

311 If the product is available with multiple fan models:



- 312 ○ If fan model variations result in substantively different component temperature or  
313 wattage consumption by the fixture (determined at the DLC’s discretion), a family  
314 grouping application is required with model numbers to represent the different fan  
315 variations. DLC reviewers will examine fan model power levels and flow rate to  
316 determine this distinction. Products that offer fan variations without substantively  
317 different component temperature or wattage consumption by the fixture are allowed to  
318 qualify using bracketed variations within a single model number.
- 319 ○ Multiple fan variations require a similar testing and reporting plan to multiple driver  
320 variations, as noted in the efficacy section.

### 321 **Electrical Performance/Power Quality:**

322 The DLC requires testing and reporting of the following items to characterize the electrical performance  
323 of the fixture:

- 324 • **Power Factor**  
325 Products must have a measured power factor of  $\geq 0.90$  at any rated input voltage at full output  
326 or non-dimmed state.
- 327 • **Total Harmonic Distortion, current (THDi)**  
328 Products must have a measured THDi of  $\leq 20\%$  at any rated input voltage at full output or non-  
329 dimmed state.

330 For products with driver variations, including input voltage variations, electrical testing of each product  
331 must be performed, sufficient to characterize the power quality of each driver, at its applicable nominal  
332 input voltages and maximum designed output power. Testing to demonstrate that products are  
333 compliant with the power factor and total harmonic distortion requirements may be done on an in-  
334 house or benchtop setup for practical simplicity, and results must be documented and included in the  
335 application materials. Please see the efficacy section regarding the use of this electrical testing for  
336 worst-case efficacy driver variation determination. Please refer to the [Family Grouping Testing  
337 Requirements for LED-based Horticultural Lighting policy](#) for specific testing and reporting requirements  
338 for product families.

### 339 **Safety:**

340 Products must be certified by an OSHA NRTL or SCC-recognized body to ANSI/UL 8800 (ANSI/CAN/UL  
341 8800) which is applicable for *horticultural lighting products* by that safety organization.

342 For illustrative and reference purposes, practices of acceptable safety organizations are described  
343 below:

- 344 • **UL**  
345 Fixture manufacturers who use UL for safety certification purposes are required to be listed on  
346 the UL Certification Directory under the designation IFAU.

- 347 • **ETL/Intertek**  
348 Fixture manufacturers who use ETL for safety certification are required to be listed on the ETL  
349 Certification Directory, specifically as Horticultural Fixtures.
- 350 • **CSA Group**  
351 Fixture manufacturers who use CSA for safety certification are required to be listed under CSA  
352 Group's Classes defined for horticultural lighting equipment in Canada and the US.
- 353 • **TÜV SÜD**  
354 Fixture manufacturers who use TÜV SÜD for safety certification are required to be listed on the  
355 TÜV SÜD Certification Directory, specifically as a light fixture for use on horticulture purposes.
- 356 • **SGS**  
357 Fixture manufacturers who use SGS for safety certification are required to be listed on the SGS  
358 Certification Directory, specifically as horticultural lighting equipment.
- 359 • **Other safety organizations**  
360 To be added to the DLC's approved list of safety organizations who certify horticultural lighting  
361 equipment per ANSI/CAN/UL 8800 requirements, please contact [horticulture@designlights.org](mailto:horticulture@designlights.org).

## 362 **Special Considerations for Spectrally-Tunable Products**

363 Spectrally-tunable products (those with varying output channels beyond simple, single-axis dimming of  
364 the whole product) are eligible with the following conditions:

- 365 • The threshold-qualifying state to be tested must be the manufacturer-designed state with the  
366 highest power consumption ("maximum power"). This may or may not be the same as an "all  
367 channels on" condition, since fixtures may not be designed to use all their channels  
368 simultaneously. Test reports must specifically indicate that the product is operated in this  
369 "maximum power" condition during the testing, with a description of the control narrative to  
370 ensure that the power state is at its maximum designed level.
- 371 • In addition to the "maximum power" condition, applicants must perform PPF testing for each  
372 control channel, in which the channel under test must be set to the maximum designed output,  
373 while all other channels must be set to their minimum designed output for this state. The test  
374 report must present an identifying name of this channel and setting, the PPF (400-700nm total  
375 and 400-500nm, 500-600nm, and 600-700nm "bins" PPF) and  $PF_{FR}$  (700-800nm) for each of the  
376 single-channel scenarios, and a description of the control narrative to achieve each setting. For  
377 each channel tested, a corresponding graphic for the SQD produced in that setting must be  
378 provided in the application. Refer to the SQD section for reporting requirements.
  - 379 ○ The flux output of each specific channel testing is displayed on the DLC Horticultural  
380 QPL, with the per-channel test outcomes and identifying information for each setting.  
381 These data are intended to support standardized communication of information about  
382 the product's spectral tuning range, aiding product selection and user acceptance.
- 383 • Applicants must provide user-facing documentation narrating the control protocol and input  
384 parameters employed in controlling the output.
- 385 • For  $PF_{M_P}$  and  $PF_{M_{FR}}$  evaluation:

- 386 ○ Provisions for products utilizing multiple types of LEDs must be followed as described in  
387 the [For fixtures using multiple types of LEDs](#) section.
- 388 ○ ISTMT testing must be provided on the hottest of each of the LED types. For each  
389 unique LED type, ISTMT testing must occur at the operating mode that produces the  
390 highest operating temperature in the fixture, for this LED type.
- 391 ○ The DLC asks any applicants considering LM-84-based maintenance testing on a  
392 spectrally-tunable fixture to contact [horticulture@designlights.org](mailto:horticulture@designlights.org) to discuss their  
393 proposed testing plan.

## 394 Tolerances

395 The DLC accepts measurement tolerances to most metrics listed in the Technical Requirements. Please  
396 refer to **Table 2** below for additional tolerance information.

397 **Table 2: DLC Horticultural Lighting Technical Requirements Tolerances**

Parameter/Attribute/Metric	V2.0 Tolerances
Photosynthetic Photon Efficacy	-5%
Power Factor	-3 percentage points
Total Harmonic Distortion	+5 percentage points
ISTMT Temperature Measurements	1.1°C or 0.4%, whichever is greater
LM-80 Drive Current	-5%

398  
399 Tolerances are intended to account for all testing variation, rounding, and significant digits. The  
400 requirement values and tolerances will be interpreted by DLC review staff as exact requirements. While  
401 test labs will be expected to follow the requirements of their accreditation and relevant test standards,  
402 DLC staff will not employ additional “rounding” to interpret values below the absolute thresholds as  
403 passing. For example, if a horticultural lighting product is required to have a PPE of 1.9 with an efficacy  
404 tolerance of -5%, any value for efficacy less than 1.81 will be interpreted as a failing value. It is the  
405 applicant’s responsibility to check all data presented in an application before submission to ensure  
406 compliance with the DLC requirements.

## 407 Supporting Documentation

### 408 Test Reports

409 The DLC requires that all testing be conducted at appropriately accredited laboratories except where  
410 noted otherwise. Specifically:

- 411 • Testing of flux, intensity, and electrical characteristics must be conducted at laboratories that  
412 are accredited to ISO 17025 and the appropriate reference test standard by accreditation bodies  
413 that are signatories to the ILAC-MRA.
  - 414 ○ Labs conducting whole-fixture performance testing must also follow the [DLC](#)  
415 [requirements for LM-79 labs](#).
- 416 • Labs conducting testing of device-level and/or fixture-level photon flux maintenance must also  
417 follow the [DLC requirements for LM-80/LM-84 labs](#).
- 418 • Labs conducting *In-Situ Temperature Measurement Testing* (ISTMT) must meet at least one of  
419 the following:
  - 420 ○ Approved by OSHA as Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories (NRTLs)
  - 421 ○ Approved through an OSHA NRTL data acceptance program or OSHA Satellite  
422 Notification and Acceptance Program (SNAP)
  - 423 ○ Accredited for ANSI/UL 1598 or CSA C22.2 No. 250.0-08, including Sections 19.7, 19.10-  
424 16, by an accreditation organization that is an ILAC-MRA Signatory

### 425 TM-33-18 Reporting and Photometric/Spectral Reporting Alternatives

426 The DLC requires all applicants to submit accompanying .xml files per ANSI/IES TM-33-18 for each parent  
427 or single product to represent the spatial and spectral distribution of the tested fixture.

- 428 • The .xml file must be based on measured data from an accredited lab, accompanying the LM-79  
429 testing requirements for spectral and spatial measurements.
- 430 • The .xml file must include the spectral power distribution data, with an interval resolution of  
431 5nm or smaller over the photosynthetic and far-red range of wavelengths defined by  
432 ANSI/ASABE S640 (400-800nm). The DLC also requires the distribution of photon flux per photon  
433 wavelengths over the PBAR range (280-800nm) in the case that applicants provide  $PF_{\text{PBAR}}$  and  
434  $PE_{\text{PBAR}}$  data. Spectral data in 1nm intervals are acceptable. The spectral measurement  
435 represents the integrated flux in all directions from the fixture, without directional spectral  
436 information. Per TM-33-18, the data is reported in W/nm, not spectral quantum distributions.  
437 All DLC developed and interim manufacturer submitted SQD images will report in  $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times$   
438  $\text{nm}^{-1}$ .
- 439 • The .xml file must also include the Photosynthetic Photon Intensity Distribution (PPID), reported  
440 in  $\mu\text{mol} \times \text{s}^{-1} \times \text{sr}^{-1}$ , over the photosynthetic wavelengths defined by ANSI/ASABE S640 (400-  
441 700nm). PPID is the distribution of photosynthetic photon intensity per unit solid angle leaving  
442 the fixture. Each measurement is integrated across the 400-700nm range leaving the fixture and  
443 contains no granular spectral distribution information (i.e. color over angle).

- 444 • TM-33 documents are separated into six elements: TM-33 documents are separated into six  
445 elements: Version, Header, Luminaire, Equipment, Emitter, and Custom Data. In addition to  
446 all 'required' elements per TM-33-18, the following describes elements required by DLC for  
447 V2.0 compliance.
- 448 ○ Header Element Required Fields
  - 449 ▪ Manufacturer
  - 450 ▪ Laboratory
  - 451 ▪ Report Number
  - 452 ▪ Report Date
- 453 ○ Luminaire Element Required Fields
  - 454 ▪ Dimensions
  - 455 ▪ Shape
  - 456 ▪ Number of Emitters
- 457 ○ Emitter Element Required Fields
  - 458 ▪ Quantity
  - 459 ▪ Description
  - 460 ▪ Input Wattage
  - 461 ▪ Power Factor
  - 462 ▪ Data Generation – Intensity Scaling element field shall be 'false' . Scaling with  
463 respect to laboratory measurements will be not accepted. Angle interpolation  
464 element must be 'true' or 'false', not blank.
  - 465 ▪ Photon Data – Photon Intensity data fields shall include ONLY PPF (400-700 nm).  
466 Photon Flux data field shall report ONLY PPF (400-700 nm).
  - 467 ▪ Spectral Data – Spectral Intensity shall be reported. Additionally, Emitter Name  
468 is required for spectrally tunable products.
- 469 ○ CustomData Element Required Fields
  - 470 ▪ A custom data element called 'Radiant Power to PPF Scalar Multiplier' shall be  
471 reported for the ratio of PPF to Radiant Watts within the PAR range (400–700  
472 nm). The 'Any Data' field shall describe this scalar multiplier. Unique Identifier  
473 data field must contain a Universally Unique Identifier (UUID), as defined by RFC  
474 4122.
- 475 ○ Additionally, it is acceptable to report element fields described in TM-33-18 that are not  
476 detailed above. All data shall be reported to the number of decimal places per the V2.0  
477 Horticultural Lighting Technical Requirements.

478 To facilitate time for accredited labs to develop or purchase TM-33-18 reporting software, the DLC  
479 offers a 9-month grace period for applicants to provide .xml files compliant with TM-33 reporting for  
480 parent products. If TM-33-18 reports are not available, applicants must submit LM-63 and TM-27 (i.e.  
481 .ies and .spdx files, respectively) for parent products or single products.

- 482 • For manufacturers choosing to submit .ies and .spdx files instead of .xml files in the interim  
483 period, they must resubmit data compliant with TM-33-18 reporting requirements by December  
484 31, 2021, or the products will be delisted.
- 485 • The .ies files must contain [\_OTHER] keywords to describe the units of intensity values and a  
486 conversion factor relating photosynthetic photon intensity to luminous intensity (conversion  
487 factor = PPF/lumens).

488 **Additional Application Details**

489 In addition to the test data noted in the sections above, the DLC requires the following for all  
490 submissions:

- 491 • A completed web-based application form
- 492 • Specification sheets (or “cut sheets”) for the product that include maximum ambient  
493 temperature
- 494 • Specification sheets for all drivers and fans employed in the product, including lifetime-at-  
495 temperature information
- 496 • Safety certificates of compliance as issued by the relevant safety body, attested to by the DLC  
497 self-certification statement
- 498 • If demonstrating flux maintenance at the device-level, a completed TM-21 calculator must be  
499 provided for each LED device present in the fixture, with the applicable LM-80 and ISTMT  
500 information for that LED device. If demonstrating flux maintenance at the fixture-level, a  
501 completed TM-28 calculator must be provided for the fixture, with the applicable LM-84  
502 information accompanying it.

503 The DLC will only accept applications for products with testing on the product submitted, with only  
504 limited variations permitted as detailed in the sections above. Given the multiple options within product  
505 families, the DLC offers the [Family Grouping Application Requirements for LED-based Horticultural](#)  
506 [Lighting policy](#), which describes a method to determine “worst-case” product family members.

507 **V2.0 Policy Clarifications and Updates**

Date Updated	Subject	Change Type	Description	Affected Document	Affected Page(s)
5/6/2021	TM 33 Requirement Elements	Clarification	More information on TM 33 required elements	V2.0 Policy	Pages 14-15

508